

1959



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COUNTY BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Principal

School Medical Officer

FOR YEAR 1959

JAMES GRANT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(GLASGOW)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND
PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

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STAFF OF SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

<i>Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer</i>	JAMES GRANT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior School Medical Officer</i>	JEAN M. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
<i>School Medical Officers (and Assistant M.O's.H.)</i>	MARY J. DANSKIN (nee Mossman), M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G. MILLICENT W. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., D.P.H. (resigned 31.7.59) TERENCE W. L. KNAGGS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. FLORENCE CADOGAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (commenced 28.8.59)
<i>Ophthalmic Surgeons (part-time)</i>	*H. V. INGRAM, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. *S. J. ARKLE, F.R.C.S.
<i>Orthopaedic Surgeon (part-time)</i>	†A. E. BREMNER, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.
<i>Physiotherapist (part-time)</i>	MRS. J. M. PICKARD, M.C.S.P., O.H.C., H.T.
<i>Remedial Gymnast (part-time)</i>	†T. D. MIDGLEY, M.S.R.G.
<i>Orthoptist</i>	MISS E. P. RUDD, D.B.O.
<i>Speech Therapist</i>	MISS M. BARNES
<i>Principal School Dental Officer</i>	JOSEPH WHITEHOUSE, L.D.S.
<i>Dental Officers</i>	MISS TERESA M. ROSSI, B.D.S., HENRY D. NORRIS, B.D.S. (resigned 14.1.59), MRS. I. F. JONES, L.D.S., BHOPINDER S. NARU, L.D.S. (Temporary, part-time—resigned 16.4.59), DHANASEELAN N. PADAYACHEE, L.D.S. (Tem- porary—commenced 13.7.59)
<i>Dental Attendants</i>	MISS M. CESSFORD, MISS S. P. THOMPSON, MRS. E. DANBY, MISS E. I. CARTER (resigned 10.3.59), MRS. H. TYRRELL, MISS M. B. LFE (commenced 24.8.59)
<i>Dental Technicians</i>	T. W. CURTIS, J. GILHOME
<i>Health Visitors and School Nurses</i>	C. ROBSON (Supt.), I. BRADLEY, M. DAGLISH D. C. JOHNSON, E. WISE, M. CRAGGS, E. POWLEY, J. TURNBULL, S. W. ATKINSON, A. MULLEN, R. GARDNER, S. GILLEY, N. M. BELL, E. BAXTER, M. FAIRS, M. MCMANEMY M. M. CUNNINGHAM (resigned 8.59), M. B. MAIN, M. MORRELL (from 14.6.59), D. E. GIBSON (from 14.6.59), F. THORNE (from 14.6.59)
<i>Nursing Assistants</i>	M. COATES, W. CRAIG, P. M. JACKSON
<i>Clerical Staff</i>	N. CRAIG, MISS E. M. JONES, MISS M. ATKINSON, MRS. M. WATSON, MISS M. H. JOBES, MISS E. GILHESPIE.

*Provide service under Supplementary Ophthalmic Treatment Regulations.

†Indicates by arrangement with the Newcastle upon Tyne Regional Hospital Board.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1959

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee

Determined efforts have been made during 1959 to bring up the establishment of the staff to a satisfactory level, but at the end of the year the medical, dental, health visiting and school nursing establishment was still incomplete. There is a prospect of the return of a former school medical officer from the colonies and it is hoped that from the graduates of the academic year ending in 1960, the dental establishment will be brought up to strength. At the same time efforts have been made to increase the establishment of health visitors, who are also school nurses, so as to permit a wider possibility of recruitment of trainees.

Broadly, it would appear that the local educational provisions for the handicapped pupils ascertained by school medical inspection is satisfactory, except for the very few children who suffer from multiple defects such as a physical disorder combined with epilepsy or mental deficiency. Nevertheless, a new class of child requiring educational attention is emerging in the form of the maladjusted child who has been ascertained and treated at the Tiverlands Child Guidance Clinic situated in Newcastle. This position poses a new problem, as the Tiverlands Clinic is essentially a training centre for workers in this field rather than a service for the local education authorities, who ought really to have organised a proper child guidance service for their own areas. The team of child guidance workers, *i.e.* the psychiatrist, the psychiatric social worker and the educational psychologist would, it appears, have to be employed by diverse agencies although working together in premises which may be provided by the local authorities. Apparently the Regional Hospital Boards and the Education Authorities have not yet arrived at the working basis of federation in this important field, which also involves the two Ministries of Health and Education.

In the contemporary scene attention is also being focussed on the welfare of the deaf. Although some people may doubt that it is possible to educate the child who would normally become completely deaf as if he were a hearing child by the use of a transistor hearing aid helped by very early training, there seems to be no doubt that severe degrees of partial deafness in very young children react very satisfactorily indeed to this type of training, which is not available in most areas because of the lack of teachers of the deaf. Were these available there is no doubt that special classes for the partially deaf could be held in the nurseries and schools of the Borough.

As has been usual in recent years, a large amount of the medical work in schools has been devoted to the prevention of the killing and disabling diseases by the use of methods of immunisation. These procedures have been so successful that already smallpox is only an occasional threat, diphtheria has been abolished, whooping cough mitigated and tetanus extremely rare. Much progress has been made towards the conquest of poliomyelitis and tuberculosis by way of the same methods, particulars of which are given in this report.

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge the work of the professional and clerical staff of the authority's school medical service in what has been a very busy year, and at the same time express my appreciation of the helpfulness of the Director of Education, his Deputy and other members of his staff, the local general practitioners and hospital consultants who have helped in the work of caring for the school children of Gateshead, by giving their advice, especially in the treatment of disorders of the eyes, crippling defects and tuberculosis.

I would like to cite especially the name of Dr. Bainbridge, who has been largely responsible for the compilation of this report.

Your obedient Servant.

JAMES GRANT,
Principal School Medical Officer.

1. STAFF

Dr. M. Payne, a school medical officer, resigned on the 31st July, and was replaced by Dr. Cadogan, leaving one vacancy, which it was anticipated would be filled at the beginning of 1960 by the return of Dr. H. C. Weir from a period of service in Ghana. The dental staff changed with the resignation of Mr. Norris and Mr. Naru, whose places were only partially filled by the appointment of Mr. Padayachee in a temporary capacity. This left the dental department considerably under strength. Even with the advent of three new student health visitors who qualified, the health visiting and school nursing establishment remained under strength, and Miss Cunningham, who has had one spell of service in Malta went off to do another period of duty in Aden.

2. CO-ORDINATION

The arrangements remain as detailed in previous reports. The medical, nursing and dental staffs of the local authority are common to the school medical and maternity and child welfare services. This arrangement ensures a satisfactory transfer of information about patients from pre-school years into the years of school life.

3. SCHOOL BUILDINGS

There were no new schools opened in Gateshead during 1959.

4. SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION

The number of children on the school registers at the end of 1959 was 17,082. Of these, 4,443 were examined at the periodic inspections.

Entrant Group .. .. .	..	1,509
Intermediate Group (Born 1949)	..	1,585
Leaver Age Group (Born 1945) ..	..	1,349
Additional Periodic Examinations	..	—
		<hr/>
		4,443
		<hr/>

Outside these age groups, 402 examinations were done. 2,343 (52.7%) of the parents attended at the examination.

5. ASSESSMENT OF GENERAL CONDITION

During the periodic examinations children were classified as

Satisfactory	99.2%
Unsatisfactory	0.8%

The condition of the children was better than last year, when 1.13 were classified as of poor nutrition.

6. ASCERTAINMENT OF DEFECTS

(a) Cleanliness

There were no children with body lice. 4 children examined by the school medical officers had head vermin, and on 236 children nits were recorded. 5 children were flea-bitten and 22 found to be dirty.

School nurses doing cleanliness surveys reported one child with body vermin, 152 children with head vermin and 1,361 having nits present. The nurses made 52,662 examinations.

(b) Skin Conditions

From the periodic inspections, and from children attending the minor ailments clinics, those requiring treatment for skin conditions were :—

Impetigo	..	..	..	55
Ringworm scalp	..	..		2
Ringworm body	..	..		1
Scabies	..	..	..	27
Eczema and dermatitis	..	..		16
Minor skin conditions		..		331

(c) Visual Defects

The eyesight of all the 8-year old children is tested by school nurses. During the year, 1,313 were tested and of these 236 found to require refraction and 222 were kept under observation. At routine medical inspections, 658 children were found to require treatment, and a further 216 were kept under observation. 144 children were found to have squints requiring treatment.

At special inspections, either at the clinic or in schools, a further 172 children were found to require treatment. 102 were kept under observation, and another 16 were found to be suffering from squint.

It is very important that eye defects should be found and treated at the earliest possible time ; 46 cases of external eye disease were seen at school during routine inspections and 123 at minor ailments clinics.

(d) Nasopharyngeal Disease

Enlarged tonsils and adenoids were recorded in 648 children, of whom 67 required treatment. 167 children had palpable neck glands, 4 of whom required treatment. The remaining 163 were kept under observation. Nasal catarrh occurred in 27 of the children seen : 16 requiring treatment and the remaining 11 were kept under observation.

(e) Ear Conditions

Otitis media was present in 117 children. Of the 126 children having subnormal hearing, 44 were referred for audiometer testing or for treatment. 89 children had wax in their ears.

(f) **Dental Defects**

Among 4,443 children examined, 1,068 were found to be suffering from dental caries, and in 46 this was extensive. 360 had dirty teeth.

(g) **Postural Defects**

77 were referred for treatment, against 39 last year. In addition 45 were referred for observation.

345 cases of foot defects were referred for remedial treatment and 211 for observation. 176 children with other orthopaedic conditions were referred for treatment.

(h) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism**

172 children were recorded as having heart lesions. 23 required treatment and 149 were kept under observation. The majority of cases were of minor importance. There were 3 cases of acute rheumatism.

(i) **Tuberculosis**

B.C.G. vaccination was again offered to children approaching school-leaving age. This offer was accepted on behalf of 71.38% of children, which is an increase of 12% on last year.

<i>Children born in 1945</i>			
Number offered vaccination	..		1,094
Number accepted	..	..	781
Number tested	..	..	736
Number of positive reactors	..		190 (<i>i.e.</i> 25.8%)
Number given B.C.G.	..	..	477
Number X-rayed	..	..	151

The X-ray results were as follows :—

Pulmonary tuberculosis	..		—
Hilar adenitis	..	..	5
Calcified primary complex	..		37
Other abnormalities	..	..	5
Nil abnormal	..	..	104
			<hr/> 151 <hr/>

Tuberculin Testing of 5-year old Children

Number offered vaccination	..	2,928
Number accepted	..	2,352 (80.3%)
Number tested	..	2,172
Number found positive	..	103 (4.7%)
Number who had had B.C.G.	..	58
Number sent for X-ray	..	45

X-ray Results :—

Primary focus	..	..	..	8
Calcified primary	..	..		9
N.A.D.	..	..	..	28
				<hr/> 45 <hr/>

Of the 28 found to have nothing abnormal detected, 10 were kept under observation for a while.

The Chest Physician supplied the following particulars of notified tuberculosis in children :—

<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>				
Infectious	..	..	..	3
Non-infectious		..	..	64
<i>Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>				
Glandular	..	..	..	3
Joints	..	..	..	2
Other organs	..	..	..	15
Abdomen	..	..	..	—

At the beginning of 1959, 8 children were undergoing treatment in hospitals. During the year, 16 patients were discharged and 15 new cases admitted : 7 children were still undergoing treatment at the end of the year.

(j) Vaccination and Immunisation

1,246, 28% of those examined had been successfully vaccinated against smallpox, and 2,662 or 60% had been immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough.

(k) Clothing and Footwear

On the whole these were adequate, although 2 children were found to have insufficient clothing.

7. SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS

In following up defects found during examination of this and previous years, 4,094 children were seen. In this connection the school nurses made 599 home visits.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT

The services available for medical, surgical and dental treatment are as follows :—

<i>Greenesfield Health Centre.</i>	
Minor Ailments	9 a.m.—9.30 a.m. daily ; 4 p.m. daily—except Saturday.
Ultra-Violet Ray Therapy	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays — Boys Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays — Girls 2—4 p.m. weekdays—Saturday mornings.
Physiotherapy	By appointment
Orthoptic Treatment	By appointment
Dental Treatment	Monday—Friday 4.0—4.30 p.m. and daily by appointment
Immunisation	Tuesday weekly, 2 p.m.—4 p.m. (pre-school children) Saturday, 10 a.m.—12 noon (school children) weekly.

Carr Hill Health Centre.

Minor Ailments	9.0 — 9.30 a.m. daily Saturday, 9.0 — 10.0 a.m.
Orthoptic Clinic	By appointment
Dental Treatment	Monday — Friday, 4.0 — 4.30 p.m. and daily by appointment.

The consultant services available by appointment are :—

Ophthalmologist (Refraction Clinic)	Tuesday and Saturday, 9.0 — 11.0 a.m. at Greenesfield Health Centre.
Orthopaedic Surgeon	Alternate Wednesdays, 9.0 a.m. at Greenes- field Health Centre.
Dermatologist	At Queen Elizabeth Hospital.
Throat, Nose and Ear Surgeon	At Children's Hospital.
Psychiatrist	By arrangement with St. Thomas's Clinic or Newcastle General Hospital.

(a) Cleanliness

92 heads were cleansed by nursing assistants. During the year, special combs were lent out on 9 occasions, and 71 combs were sold. Cleansing lotion is available for use at home.

(b) Treatment of Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin

The number of children attending the clinic for treatment has fallen.

Those who attended for treatment were :—

	<i>No. attending</i>				<i>No. Treatments</i>
Ringworm Scalp	2				7
Ringworm Body	1				10
Scabies	27				158
Impetigo	55				353
Other skin conditions	347				3,224
External eye conditions	123				507
Otitis media	35				226
Other ear conditions	61				315
Miscellaneous	656				3,456
Totals	1,307				8,256

(c) Treatment of Ophthalmic Defects

90 clinics were attended by Mr. H. Vernon-Ingram and Mr. Arkle. 1,032 children were seen. Glasses were prescribed for 763 children and 188 cases were found to be already wearing suitable glasses.

Errors of refraction found were :—

Hypermetropia	215
Myopia	102
Hypermetropic astigmatism	92
Myopic astigmatism	32
Irregular astigmatism	2
Compound myopic astigmatism	122
Compound hypermetropic astigmatism	480
Mixed astigmatism	102

In addition to these the following defects were recorded :—

Strabismus	..	..	..	..	180
Amblyopia exanopsia	..	..	..	..	10
Blepharitis	..	..	..	..	2
Amblyopia..	..	..	..	..	7
Nystagmus..	..	..	..	..	2
Corneal nebulae	..	..	..	..	1
Detached retina	..	..	..	..	2
Cataract ..	..	..	..	..	4
Overaction I.O.	..	..	..	..	1
Hordeola	..	..	..	..	3
Paresis R.E.R.	..	..	..	..	1

We can now offer refraction without any undue delay.

Orthoptic Clinic

During the year, 1,947 attendances were made for the following reasons :—

Occlusions	..	..	..	..	223
Observations	..	..	..	..	836
Treatments	..	..	..	..	368
Patients treated	..	..	..	..	431
Reports ..	..	..	..	..	230
Discharges	..	..	..	..	89
New cases registered	..	..	..	..	202

Discharges

Classification :

Functional cures	..	..	..	28	(co-operative parents)
Satisfactory cosmetic appearance with improved visual acuity	..	..	..	18	
Cosmetic cures with operation and orthoptic treatment	..	..	..	25	
No co-operation and failed to attend	..	..	..	12	
Transferred to other districts	..	..	..	4	
2 children were killed in accidents.					

The parents of these children are willing for operation in most cases and co-operation is improving.

90 children were admitted to the Royal Victoria Infirmary and Fleming Memorial Hospital for surgical correction. The waiting list for hospital treatment is now quite short.

In 470 instances children failed to keep their appointment at the clinic.

People are becoming more aware of the importance of having squints treated. This is evident by the increase in the number of children registered for treatment and by the decrease in the number of children who have failed to attend during the past year.

(d) Throat, Nose and Ear Defects

At the Children's Hospital, 274 tonsillectomies and 53 operations for other conditions of the nose and throat were performed. 15 children

had operative treatment there for ear defects. The school medical officers dealt with 35 cases of chronic otorrhoea, and with 28 cases requiring the removal of cerumen from the external meatus.

(e) Treatment of Dental Defects

(Report of the Principal Dental Officer)

Staff

The staff of the dental department consists of the principal dental officer and three full-time dental officers, five dental attendants and one clerk. The dental laboratory is staffed by one senior dental technician in charge and one senior technician.

During the year Mr. Norris, a full-time dental officer, resigned on 14.1.59 and Mr. Naru, a part-time dental officer, resigned on 16.4.59. Miss Carter, a dental attendant resigned on 10.3.59, her place being taken by Miss Lee on 21.8.59. Mr. Padayachee, a dental officer, was appointed on 13.7.59.

As in previous years, approximately two-thirds of the dental officers' time was devoted to school children, the remaining one third being given to the priority services.

Dental Treatment

During the year routine inspections decreased by 2,283 and inspections of specials by 41. The fewer routine inspections are accounted for by the loss of dental officer strength from 4½ to 3.7/12 over the year. The number of children who attend a private dental practitioner regularly, as mentioned in the 1958 report, appears to have, at least held its own and could possibly have increased. The number of children found to require treatment, including specials, is 54.4% and excluding specials 50.9%, a drop of 10% and 7% respectively, and the percentage of those accepting treatment, including specials is 56.0% and excluding specials 49.4%, a drop of 4.8% and nil respectively. The average attendances made per child was 1.8%, a reduction of .4%. The number of x-rays taken was 48 and the number of dentures fitted fell by 20 to 51.

I would like to thank the staff of the dental department for their work during the year, and the schools' staff for their help and co-operation.

Part IV summarises the dental treatment given to school children during the year.

J. WHITEHOUSE,
Principal School Dental Officer.

(f) Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

60 cases attended for the first time the orthopaedic consultation clinics held by Mr. A. E. Bremner, F.R.C.S. In addition he re-examined 81 cases he had previously seen.

The types of lesions found were as follows :—

<i>Defects</i>	<i>New cases</i>	<i>Old cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>
Congenital malformations ..	1	4	5
Pes planus	8	6	24
Foot defects	11	15	48
Osteogenesis imperfecta	—	1	1
Osgood Schlatter's disease ..	1	—	2
Osteochondritis of navicular bone	—	1	1
Sequelae to polio	3	6	14
Spastic conditions	—	20	33
Sequelae to T.B. Meningitis ..	—	1	1
Friedreich's Ataxia	—	1	1
Torticollis	3	3	9
Scoliosis	3	4	15
Lordosis	2	—	4
Kyphosis	—	1	1
Poor posture	1	—	1
Genu valgum	2	6	8
Genu varum	1	—	1
Old fractures	1	—	1
Deformity of finger	1	1	5
Exostosis	2	1	6
Cartilage	1	—	2
Effusion of knee	1	1	4
Popliteal bursa	1	1	3
Nerve lesion of arm	1	—	1
Others	4	—	8
Nil abnormal detected	12	8	28

The Remedial Gymnast, Mr. Midgley, employed by the Hospital Management Committee, attended Greenesfield Health Centre six half-day sessions per week, and gave the following treatments, both individual and in classes, as listed below :—

INDIVIDUAL TREATMENTS

	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Treatments</i>
<i>Cerebral Palsy</i>		
Spastic hemiplegia	4	95
Spastic diplegia	2	30
<i>Nerve lesions</i>		
Post-inoculation poliomyelitis	1	15
Post poliomyelitis	1	4
Ulnar nerve lesions	1	27
<i>Traumatic injuries</i>		
Supra condylar fractures	23	162
Fractures of radius and ulna	3	12
Fractures of humerus	6	15
Lower limb fractures	10	97
Fracture dislocations	5	19
Fractures of phalangeal joints	1	3
Compression fractures (spine)	1	7
<i>Tendon and Soft tissue injuries</i>		
Teno synovitis	1	7
Wrist and elbow (tendon)	2	6
Ankle and knee (tendon)	3	14
Lacerations	1	4
Effusion of knee	2	10
Electrical burns (skin graft)	1	21
Severed tendo achilles	1	8

					<i>Patients</i>	<i>Treatments</i>
<i>Other conditions</i>						
Torticollis	..	..	..	..	2	15
Slipped femoral epiphysis			..	..	1	3
Low back strain	..	..	..	..	1	11
Totals	..		..	..	73	585

CHEST CONDITIONS

					<i>Patients</i>	<i>Treatments</i>
Asthma	..	..	..	..	16	93
Recurring bronchitis			..	..	11	55
Rhonchi chest	..	..	..	..	7	68
Atelectasis	..	..	..	..	1	14
Basal infection	..	..	..	..	1	9
Poor chest (treated by breathing exercises)	..	..	..	..	2	8
					38	247

POSTURAL DEFECTS

					<i>Patients</i>	<i>Treatments</i>
Scoliosis	..	..	..	..	6	78
Lordosis	..	..	..	..	6	47
Kyphosis	..	..	..	..	4	26
Poor thoracic posture	..	..	..		17	136
					33	287

FOOT, ANKLE AND TOE DEFECTS

The treatment of defects of the foot and ankle, and of toe deformities is carried out in classes, except the more severe of the cases, which are treated individually.

The length of the course of treatment varies in accordance with the progress, in some cases more than one course of treatment being necessary.

					<i>Patients</i>	<i>Treatments</i>
Pes planus	}				159	925
Pes valgus		..	..	..
Hallux valgus						

Physiotherapy

Routine physiotherapy, 2 sessions weekly, has been carried out by Mrs. Pickard, the physiotherapist, during the year among those children referred to Greenesfield Clinic by the Orthopaedic Surgeon and the School Medical Officers. Large classes have continued for the treatment of foot and postural defects and respiratory conditions. Individual treatments are carried out when necessary and in all cases particular emphasis is laid upon the importance of continuing simple exercises at home during the course of treatment.

The pupils of the Cedars Special school are visited by the physiotherapist two sessions each week where treatment is continued under the direction of the Orthopaedic Surgeon and the Paediatrician.

Two sessions each week are devoted to group treatments at Joicey Road Open Air School among children recommended for physical therapy by the Chest Physician and School Medical Officers.

<i>Conditions treated</i>	<i>No. of patients</i>	<i>No. of treatments</i>
Flat feet	88	495
Pes cavus	2	15
Posture	35	306
Asthma	32	532
Bronchitis	25	240
Bronchiectasis	17	393
Anterior poliomyelitis	11	216
Cerebral palsy	13	416
Hydrocephalus	1	21
Chronic respiratory infection	10	26
Scoliosis	3	81
Bell's Palsy	1	15
Amputation	2	5
Torticollis	3	10
Congenital Disease of Heart	2	27
Peripheral nerve lesions	1	9
Low Back pain	1	13
Ruptured trapezius	1	2
Muscular dystrophy	1	2
	<hr/> 249	<hr/> 2,824

(g) **Ultra-Violet Ray Therapy**

Courses of ultra-violet ray therapy were recommended for :—

Respiratory infections	5
Bronchitis	1
Asthma	1
General debility and subnormal nutrition..	9
Anorexia	6
Acne	6
Other skin conditions	6
Adenitis	1
Repeated colds	8
	<hr/> 43

9. INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND IMMUNISATION

Cases of infectious disease occurring among school children were :—

Measles	605
Scarlet fever	59
Whooping Cough	75
Pneumonia	24
Dysentery	19
Scabies	28
Food poisoning	2
Infective encephalitis	14
Erysipelas	1

Booster doses of Diphtheria P.T.A.P. were offered to infant entrants at school. 194 accepted and were re-immunised.

At Greenesfield House 127 children were immunised against diphtheria alone, 11 against diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus, and 53 “ booster” doses were given. The doctors of the area reported the following inoculations given by them to school children :—

Diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus	..	..	35
Diphtheria and pertussis	..	..	3
Diphtheria (booster)	..	..	100
Diphtheria	..	..	19
Vaccination	..	..	8
Re-vaccination	..	..	7

One child was vaccinated and three re-vaccinated by the Local Authority.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

During the year 3,897 school children were completely vaccinated, *i.e.* 2 injections, 1,894 by health department staff and 2,003 by general practitioners.

6,146 children were given “ booster” injections and 166 had received the first injection of the course.

**10. REPORT ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959**

“ I beg to submit a report on Physical Education for the year ended 31st December, 1959.

Introduction

Physical Education in Gateshead schools can be said to be undergoing a gradual change to a system more in keeping with modern educational thought and the older conception of the subject as a discipline of rigorous exercise, applied in a strictly anatomical fashion, has now almost disappeared.

All schools in Gateshead offer at least physical training and games as part of their programme, and the building of new schools together with the provision of playing fields will, no doubt, widen the horizons of both teachers and children. There is, indeed, already evidence of an awakening to the possibilities of physical education as an important branch of the educational system.

The shortage of specialist teachers continues to present great difficulties.

Physical Training

(a) Infants

Physical training lessons in infants’ departments normally take the form of experimentation with small apparatus such as balls, bean-bags, hoops, ropes, etc., together with scrambling and climbing activities.

The scope of the work in a number of Gateshead infants' schools has increased during the year as climbing apparatus has been provided. It is interesting to note that it is not possible to supply only one standard type of climbing apparatus since limitation of space makes it necessary to offer apparatus of many different kinds. This has been done in several schools after consultation with the respective Head Teachers. A number of schools are now learning for the first time the value of the individual mat for activities done in the sitting, kneeling and lying positions.

Generally, physical training in the infants' departments is on sound lines and most teachers understand the needs of their classes, and make spirited efforts to give the children enjoyable and objective activity.

(b) *Juniors*

The junior departments continue the work of the infants' school by using similar types of small apparatus but naturally asking their children to work towards higher levels of skill. Almost all schools have now implemented the suggestions offered in the Ministry of Education's book "Planning the Programme." There are, however, some departments which are seriously handicapped by lack of indoor facilities, and bad weather severely curtails the physical training timetable. It is pleasing to note, that in one case where a good central hall was provided by a reconstruction, excellent progress has been made, and the standard of dress and attainment in physical training has made spectacular improvement. Improved types of climbing apparatus have been installed in schools where facilities are available, and many demonstration lessons have been given.

(c) *Senior Boys*

The shortage of men teachers for physical education continues and in Gateshead the situation shows no sign of improvement. The full application of modern methods will only be implemented when many more men are forthcoming who have not only the necessary training but enthusiasm for the subject. Good work and progress is being maintained, however, and portable and fixed apparatus has been placed where it would be most useful. It is essential for an adequate programme of physical training for senior boys that there be some indoor space, preferably on the school premises, and a number of schools as yet lack this facility.

(d) *Senior Girls*

The shortage of specialist teachers for senior girls is even greater than for senior boys and repeated advertisements offering posts at new schools fail to attract applicants. All senior girls, however, are still able to have physical training lessons, and it is a tribute to many women teachers who have little or no training in this work, that they can do so. Modern physical education for senior girls demands knowledge of "movement" principles and it will be necessary to organise courses for teachers of senior girls in the future, in order to familiarise them with more recent developments in the subject.

Games

Infant and junior children are able to make full use of school-yards and grassed areas for games.

There has been some notable progress in the provision of games facilities for senior boys and girls. In September the Shuttles Playing Field was brought into use and for the first time Gateshead's senior girls (outside the Grammar School) were able to play hockey. Although the field is only being used to a limited extent at the moment, 300 boys and girls are able to enjoy a weekly games period. There is still a shortage of grounds, however, and 75 per cent. of senior boys and girls do not have any field games.

A measure which has been most successful was the introduction of tennis coaching for eleven senior girls' schools, and the Parks Department has been most co-operative in allowing the use of public tennis courts. This game will be further developed when new schools are opened, and the Head Teachers of all the schools taking part in the scheme speak most highly of the physical and social benefits which have accrued to their girls.

The position generally is more hopeful than a year ago, and the opening of playing fields at the new Hill Head and Greenwell Schools should improve matters even further, but if the boys and girls of Gateshead are to receive full benefit from their physical education, many more playing fields are required.

Dance

Most senior girls' and junior departments offer some form of dance teaching. This varies from Modern Educational Dance to English, Scottish, Irish and European Folk Dancing.

A notable advance in dance teaching in Gateshead schools has come about during the year through the employment of pianists on a part-time basis. Seven senior girls' schools now have the services of a pianist for at least two hours per week, and the teachers are able to concentrate on improving the quality of performance rather than to have to manipulate a gramophone and teach a class simultaneously.

The Gateshead Schools' Folk Dance Association held its biennial festival during 1959 and over 1,000 children were able to take part. A more detailed account of the work of this body appears later in this report. Very high standards of national dancing have been reached in many schools.

Swimming

Excellent progress has been maintained throughout the year in swimming and the Committee's professional instructors are to be congratulated.

Over 2,000 boys and girls receive a weekly swimming lesson at either Mulgrave or Shipcote Baths, and gradual changes in the timetable

will shortly enable every boy and girl attending the Committee's schools to have the opportunity to learn to swim at some time during school life. It is considered to be most economical from the teaching and administrative point of view to send children from first year senior classes to the baths, and this group will form the basis of classes for future instruction.

Gateshead schools have had an outstanding year in competitive swimming and the Schools' Swimming Association has much of which to be proud. The results are recorded in more detail under the appropriate paragraph.

Life Saving

This aspect of swimming has not been neglected and awards at many levels continue to be gained by a number of schools.

A detailed summary of results is appended to this report.

Athletics

There has been something of a revival in interest in athletics in the schools during the year and many more children than normally have had the opportunity to take part in both training and competition. Facilities, however, are still poor. There is a small athletics area on the new Shuttles playing field and it is hoped that all new schools will have facilities for athletic events.

Serious athletic coaching is the work of a specialist but much good can be done by the teacher who has some enthusiasm for the sport, and it is hoped that many more teachers and children will come to regard athletics as having something greater to offer than merely the running of races.

Cross Country

A new departure for Gateshead schoolboys was made during the year by the forming of a schools cross-country running section. This exacting sport appeals to many boys and offers a test of personal endurance and courage. It is emphasised that training must play an important part, and no boy should be encouraged to race before undergoing adequate preparation. At the first Gateshead inter-schools meet in December it was pleasing to note that all 47 runners finished the two mile course—none of them in a distressed condition.

Teachers' Courses

A variety of refresher courses for teachers has been held during the year. Aspects of physical education covered have been Swimming (Men and Women), Athletics (Men and Women), Tennis (Men and Women), Gymnastics and Recreative Physical Training (Men). There has been a good response from teachers to these courses and details are as follows :—

<i>Course</i>			<i>Number Enrolled</i>		
Swimming (1)	24
Athletics	31
Tennis Coaching	34
Gymnastics for Men		20
Swimming (2)	18
Total			127

The first swimming course was concerned with methods of teaching swimming. Four teachers obtained the Bronze Cross of the Royal Life Saving Society as part of the work they did at the course. The Athletics Course was a six weeks' refresher course in basic athletic training. The events dealt with included sprinting, middle-distance running, relay racing, high jump, long jump, throwing the discus, throwing the javelin and putting the shot.

The Tennis Course was a one-day refresher course on the coaching of tennis for school classes, and was taken by the senior coach for the Lawn Tennis Association.

The Gymnastics Course for men is a continuous course lasting from September until Easter each year, and deals with modern developments in senior boys' physical education.

The second swimming course was concerned with the Amateur Swimming Association's Teachers' Certificate. Sixteen teachers took the examination, consisting of both theoretical and practical work. Thirteen gained the Certificate.

Physical Education in the Youth Service

The Committee's Youth Officer does useful work in fostering an interest in physical education in youth clubs, and during the year seventeen classes in thirteen different centres have been organised. The subjects included Physical Training, Keep-Fit, Swimming, Cricket-Coaching, Canoe-Building and Country Dancing. Over 350 boys and girls were attracted to the various classes. In addition to these classes the following events were organised :—

- (a) Country Dance Festival.
- (b) Netball League and Tournament.
- (c) Swimming Gala.
- (d) Swimming Training Scheme.
- (e) Association Football League.
- (f) Athletics Coaching Sessions.

The Youth Clubs of Gateshead suffer from the general shortage of playing field facilities and great difficulty is experienced in finding suitable pitches.

Activities Outside School Hours

Many Gateshead teachers give much of their spare time to physical education outside school hours, and it is a pleasure to record their activities. There are school organisations for Association Football, Cricket, Netball, Swimming, Athletics and Dancing. Rugby Football is played at the Boys' Grammar School and at Harlow Green School.

Schools' Swimming Association

A most successful year in competitive schools' swimming is recorded by the Secretary of the Schools' Swimming Association.

Gateshead Schools' Team had matches against Newcastle and Sunderland and won both—an outstanding achievement considering that in each case the opponents were from larger organisations.

At the Northumberland and Durham Schools' Championships in July, Gateshead was successful in both the boys' and girls' sections. In the boys' events, Gateshead gained 35 points, and Newcastle was second with 19 points.

In June, the Gateshead Schools' preliminary gala was held at Shipcote Baths before a capacity audience. Over 300 swimmers took part and the winners went forward to the Final Gala at which the Mayor, Alderman J. W. Pike, presided.

Seven Gateshead Schools' swimmers were selected to represent Northumberland and Durham at the English Schools' Championships in Essex and three of these won places in the finals. Heather Scott of Beaconsfield and J. Davidson of the Boys' Grammar School were placed 4th and 5th in their respective events.

Schools' Athletic Association

This Association held its 22nd Annual Championship at the Youth Stadium during June and over 500 children, representing some 30 schools and departments, took part. At the Durham County Sports at Houghton-le-Spring, Gateshead was represented by teams of boys and girls in the Junior Section (up to 15 years) of the competition. Gateshead had the greatest success ever achieved. M. McKenna (Kelvin Grove) won the half mile in 2 mins. 7.8 secs. and K. McNally (Low Fell) won the mile in 4 mins. 47 secs. McKenna was also placed second in the long jump with 18ft. 1in. Both these boys went on to represent Durham in the National Schools' Championships at Northwich, Cheshire, and McKenna was third in the half mile, so becoming the first Gateshead schoolboy to be placed in a National Championship.

Schools' Folk Dance Association

This body fosters dancing of many kinds amongst the children of Gateshead and its lively Committee held many meetings during 1959. A good deal of work went into the preparations for the biennial "Festival of Dance" which was held at Gateshead Town Hall on three evenings in April. Over 1,000 children representing 27 schools performed 116 items ranging from Modern Educational Dance to Morris and Sword Dancing. The Festival attracted a "full-house" at each performance, and many members of the Education Committee had an opportunity of seeing the children of Gateshead dance together.

Schools' Netball Association

Netball is a most popular game amongst the schoolgirls of Gateshead and has the advantage of being playable in a comparatively restricted space.

The Schools' Netball Association held its first tournament in February and twelve schools took part. The Horn Challenge Cup was won by St. Joan of Arc R.C. School who defeated Corpus Christi R.C. School in the final.

These two schools went forward as representatives of Gateshead to the Northumberland and Durham inter-towns' tournament held at Darlington in March. St. Joan of Arc R.C. School defeated in succession the best school teams from Sunderland, Newcastle, West Hartlepool, South Shields and Darlington, scoring 48 goals against 9. They were awarded the inter-towns' Shield which was presented by the Mayor of Darlington.

Two further tournaments were held during the year. Twenty-two schools entered for the "second teams tournament" and again St. Joan of Arc School was successful, indicating that their reserve strength was quite considerable. In the summer tournament twelve schools took part and once more St. Joan of Arc School carried off the trophy which was in this case a new Shield donated by Alderman Roberts.

Camping

At the beginning of the year lightweight camping equipment was purchased for school use, and an exhibition of this material was held on the playing field of the Boys' Grammar School and a mobile type camp site set up. During the year the equipment has been used by boys from many senior schools and each group had a scheme of three week-ends' work including :—

1. Primary or training Camp.
2. Intermediate—Cooking, elementary first-aid, camping law, litter, etc.
3. Final—Construction of bivouacs made from natural resources, gadgets, map reading, camp layout, etc.

Each scheme of work was followed by one week-end in Gateshead studying ordnance maps, compasses, and seeing to the maintenance of the equipment.

Camps for training purposes have been held in the Hexham area, and at the conclusion of these, parties of boys have camped in Cumberland, Westmorland, Norfolk, Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Roxburgh, Berwick and Dumfries. Thus a most encouraging start has been made to the work of giving boys from Gateshead a feeling for life out of doors.

So far, no girls' parties have been organised.

Rugby Football

The Boys' Grammar School continues to play Rugby Football as its main school game, and considerable success has been recorded during the year.

The following honours were gained by pupils during the year :—

C. W. Stott—Durham County Under 15 VX and England Trials.

J. D. Milburn, J. C. Robinson, D. R. Bratton and A. E. Howe—Durham County Public and Grammar Schools All Ages XV.

D. Younger—Durham County Under 18 XV.

In addition, Milburn and Robinson were selected to play for English Schools against Welsh Schools—an outstanding achievement for any single school.

Schools' Football Association

Less difficulties were experienced in finding grounds for schools' football than in past years and the Association looks forward with considerable hope to the future.

Altogether 34 schools' teams (20 senior and 14 junior) took part in the various competitions during the year.

Honours were gained by Rose Street, South Street, Boys' Grammar and Secondary Technical Schools in the senior section, while junior successes were recorded by St. Wilfrid's R.C., Lobley Hill and Redheugh Junior Boys' Schools.

—Two boys, McKenna (Kelvin Grove) and Young (Carr Hill), received trials for Durham County Schools' Team and McKenna was eventually selected to captain the Durham Boys' Side. He led his team to victory against Northumberland at Redheugh Park in December.

Gateshead Schools' team was eliminated from the English Schools' Shield by Tynemouth after two replays.

Schools' Cricket Association

Although facilities for schools' cricket are very poor in Gateshead, twelve teams took part in the Annual Shield competition. This was eventually won by Whitehall Road who defeated Alexandra Road in the final on North Durham's ground.

Gateshead's schools' team played three matches, two against Ashington (lost 1, won 1) and against South Shields (won). The performance against South Shields was particularly noteworthy as they were regarded as having one of the best teams in the area.

Adult Classes

During the year classes were organised in Keep-Fit, Scottish Dancing and Country Dancing. These classes attracted 134 men and women. There is obviously room for expansion in this adult field of physical education, and there is evidence that there is considerable revival in women's Keep-Fit work.

Conclusion

Progress throughout the year has been satisfactory in most fields of physical education, but much remains to be done. The shortage of teachers at both primary and secondary level is a considerable handicap and the utilisation of improved facilities must ultimately depend on enthusiastic men and women in the schools.

J. G. JONES.
Organiser of Physical Education.

APPENDIX

Swimming and Life Saving Results for year ended
31st December, 1959

Boys and girls of Gateshead are able to gain a variety of swimming certificates. There are distance certificates ranging from 25 yards to a half-mile, and also a proficiency certificate demanding a high standard of all-round swimming and diving.

The following table shows the successes obtained :—

				<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Learner's Certificate (25 yards)	..	..	..	680	553	1,233
100 yards Certificate	..	..	..	482	316	798
440 yards Certificate	..	..	..	312	210	522
880 yards Certificate	..	..	..	315	144	459
Proficiency Certificate	..	..	..	135	39	174
Grand Totals	..	..	..	1,924	1,262	3,186

The grand total of certificates gained shows an increase of 1,049 on 1958 and is a record for any year. Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the results is that 1,233 boys and girls were taught to swim and actually managed to complete at least 25 yards.

Life Saving

The following successes were recorded during the year :—

				<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Intermediate Certificate	..	..	..	43	39	82
Bronze Medallion	..	..	..	80	97	177
Bronze Cross	..	..	..	46	26	72
Award of Merit	..	..	..	7	3	10
Grand Totals	..	..	..	176	165	341

There was a slight decrease on the previous year when 353 awards were gained.

The Education Committee paid the entry fees for the candidates for Bronze Medallion and the remaining awards were taken at the expense of the boys and girls concerned.

11. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The co-operation and assistance of the Director of Education, Welfare Officers and teachers during the year was greatly appreciated, as were the services of the N.S.P.C.C. Officer, Mr. F. Maidment.

12. HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Children found during the year to require special educational treatment were :—

Deaf	..	..	..	..	..	2
Partially deaf	..	..	..	..	..	—
Blind	..	..	..	..	..	—
Partially sighted	..	..	..	..	..	1
Educationally subnormal	..	..	..	..	..	30
Delicate	..	..	..	..	..	33
Defective speech	..	..	..	..	..	41
Epileptic	..	..	..	..	..	2
Maladjusted	..	..	..	..	..	2
Physically handicapped	..	..	..	..	..	18

Supervision was given to 12 children who have been supplied with hearing aids and are attending ordinary schools.

Mental Defect

58 children were given mental assessments. Of these 21 were found to be ineducable. For the remainder the following recommendations were made :—

School for E.S.N. pupils	..	..	11
Class for retarded pupils	..	..	19
Special tuition in ordinary schools	..	..	1
No special educational treatment	..	..	6

In addition, 7 children from other authorities were examined at Hindley Hall Special School before leaving : of these 5 required supervision.

Classes for Backward Pupils

Two junior classes, one at Askew Road and one at Sunderland Road, two senior classes at High West Street and one infants class at Victoria Road cater for retarded pupils. It would seem that there is still an increasing need for special classes for retarded pupils.

Special Schools

Joicey Road Open Air School for Delicate Children

At the end of the year 138 pupils were in attendance at the school. 45 children were admitted during 1959 and 57 were discharged.

The reasons for discharge were : 36 were fit for discharge to normal school, 3 were of age, 8 were admitted to hospital school, 5 were recommended for special educational treatment (4 to residential schools), 1 was transferred to Girls' Grammar School, and 4 moved from the district.

A new time-table came into operation at the beginning of the year to cater for the more active children who do not need the hour's rest period which had been customary for all children attending the school. The more active children now have longer school sessions in the morning and afternoon and a short period of active play during the dinner break. The staff can observe these children's reaction to something approaching normal school routine when considering their discharge from here.

The rest period continues for the younger children and for the less fit in the older group.

The school meals organiser and the kitchen staff have given willing co-operation in arranging the two dinner sittings necessary to work this new time-table.

New and attractive dining room furniture has been provided during the year and the replacement of the old type classroom furniture by single locker desks continues.

Visits have been made by groups of children to the Science Museum and the Keep in Newcastle and to the Scottish Children's Theatre, the Theatre Royal and a Book Exhibition during the year.

The children have heard visiting speakers from the Commonwealth Institute and from the R.S.P.C.A.

A member of the teaching staff attended a 14 day Ministry of Education Course in London on the education of physically handicapped and delicate children.

The "Cedars" School for Handicapped Children

The number of children attending the school during the year was 33, of whom 16 were resident. The school accepts resident handicapped children from outside the Borough.

Children were admitted to the school for the following conditions :—

Cerebral Palsy	12
Post-poliomyelitis	6
Accidents (traumatic hemiplegia, amputations, etc.)	4
Tuberculosis—after effects	1
Haemophilia	2
Perthe's Hip	2
Congenital deformity	1
Friedreich's ataxia	1
Muscular dystrophy	2
Oppenheim's disease	1
Haemangioma—post-operative	1
	<hr/>
	33
	<hr/>

Two girls left during 1959. Both of these had been admitted by this authority. One girl had traumatic amputation of both legs and was

found employment immediately on the Trading Estate. The other girl had several defects and has been extremely difficult to place in employment and as yet we have not succeeded in placing her.

Miss Kay, S.R.N., was appointed as Matron and took up duties on 21.4.59. At the end of the summer term Miss Morgan, head-teacher, left, and Miss Appleby was appointed in her place and commenced duties on 1.11.59.

Hindley Hall for Educationally Subnormal Pupils

During the earlier part of the year there were 50 boys in residence. This figure subsequently dropped to 46 due to serious shortages on the teaching staff. It is pleasing to report that we are now adequately staffed on the teaching and supervisory side and it is hoped to reach our full complement of 60 boys in the near future.

The previous year's high standard of health has been maintained.

During the year 7 boys left, having attained school leaving age. Of these, 5 are known to be in employment in the following capacities :—

1 van boy
1 shipyard worker
1 coal mining
2 potato crisp factory

Two of these lads have transferred to their local Army Cadet Units.

The various societies and hobbies groups catering for drama, woodwork, toy-making, leatherwork, basketry, weaving, sports and athletics etc. have maintained a full programme.

The Army Cadet Company has had another successful year and a number of week-end bivouac camps have been enjoyed. For the second year in succession the Company has been awarded the County Commandant's A.C.F.A. Award for Citizenship. 5 boys have passed War Office Certificate "A" Part 1 and the Company has participated in the recent Duke of Edinburgh's Banner Parade at Newcastle and Ponteland.

We have been allowed the weekly use of a .22 rifle range at Hexham Drill Hall and 4 cadets have been chosen to represent the Battalion in .22 and .303 Rifle Competitions. 8 cadets are preparing for the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. Our Boys Brigade Company which caters for the younger boys continues to flourish.

Activities in the classroom are showing good progress and the majority of boys are leaving school with a tolerable command of reading, writing and arithmetic.

A fresh start has been made in woodwork since the appointment of a handicrafts master at the beginning of the present term. Work in the school gardens and boys personal plots has been most successful.

A great number of people have visited the school throughout the year, including welfare workers, School Medical Officers, students, magistrates, probation officers and members of the Education Committee.

The increase in our teaching and supervisory staff has been one of the most gratifying features of the year and it is hoped that these new members will continue in service, thus providing the stability and continuity of education so essential to a boarding establishment.

M. MORGAN,
Headmaster.

Peripatetic Teacher

Two teachers visit both the homes and the hospitals in the Borough for the benefit of those children spending long periods away from school while undergoing treatment. At the end of the year, they were attending 7 children at home and 3 in hospital.

Pupils Educated outside the Borough

Children in residential schools not maintained by the Local Authority are :—

Deaf	..	..	..	..	23
Partially deaf	..	..	..	..	3
Blind	..	..	..	..	5
Partially blind	..	..	..	..	2
Physically handicapped				..	6
Epileptic	..	..	..	..	4
Educationally subnormal				..	9
Maladjusted	..	..	..	..	1
Delicate	..	..	..	..	1

The above pupils attend the following schools :—

<i>Deaf and Partially Deaf</i>					
St. John's, Boston Spa	..	..	..	..	5
Elmete Hall School, Leeds	..	..	..	..	5
Northern Counties, Newcastle			..	..	16
<i>Blind and Partially Blind</i>					
Royal Victoria School for the Blind, Newcastle					3
Henshaw's School, Manchester	..	..	..	..	1
Preston School for Partially Sighted	..	..	..	..	1
East Anglia School for Blind	..	..	..	..	1
Sunshine House, Southport	..	..	..	..	1
<i>Physically Handicapped</i>					
St. Vincent's Orthopaedic Hospital, Pinner, Middlesex	..	..	..	..	1
Percy Hedley School for Spastic Children, Newcastle	..	..	..	..	5
<i>Epileptic</i>					
Colhurst House School, Cheshire	..	..	..	..	1
Lingfield Epileptic Colony, Surrey	..	..	..	..	2
Soss Moss School, Chelford	..	..	..	..	1
<i>Educationally Subnormal</i>					
Pontville R.C. School, Ormskirk	..	..	..	..	4
Jesmond Dene House Special School	..	..	..	..	5

<i>Delicate</i>			
Windlestone Hall Residential School	..	..	1
<i>Maladjusted</i>			
St. Thomas More School, East Allington	..	..	1

The following table gives details relating to the education of handi-
capped children :—

<i>Category</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>No. in Ordinary School</i>	<i>No. in Special Schools</i>		<i>No. on Waiting List for Special Schools</i>		<i>Not attend- ing any school</i>
			<i>Day</i>	<i>Resi- dential</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Resi- dential</i>	
Blind	5	—	—	5	—	—	—
Partially sighted	3	1	—	2	—	1	—
Deaf	25	—	—	23	—	2	2
Partially deaf	3	—	—	3	—	—	—
Educationally Subnormal	323	299	—	24	—	10	—
Epileptic	15	11	—	4	—	1	—
Maladjusted	3	2	—	1	—	2	—
Physically handicapped ..	56	10	26	19	3	1	1
Speech defect	56	56	—	—	—	—	—
Delicate	117	—	116	1	4	—	—
Totals	606	379	142	82	7	17	3

88 children were in Special Classes in Ordinary Schools, *i.e.* 9 infants, 39 Juniors and 40 Seniors.

SPEECH THERAPY

Report by the Speech Therapist

During the past year 56 children have received treatment at the Speech Clinic :—

27 Stammerers	{ 19 boys 8 girls
17 Dyslalics	{ 14 boys 3 girls
8 Lispers	{ 6 boys 2 girls
1 Cleft Palate	1 girl
2 Retarded Speech	2 girls
1 Partially deaf	1 girl

29 children were already under treatment at the beginning of the year. Another 27 have been admitted during 1959. Types of defect were as follows :—

8 Stammerers	{ 5 boys 3 girls
12 Dyslalics	{ 10 boys 2 girls
6 Lispers	{ 5 boys 1 girl
1 Retarded Speech	1 girl

Discharges

27 children have been discharged during the year. The following shows a detailed analysis of these :—

8 stammerers	6 boys	{ 2—Speech normal 2—Left school—1 much improved. 1 no headway in speech but more confident.
	2 girls	{ 2—Unwilling for further treatment. 1—Left school, speech almost normal 1—Unwilling for further treatment
1 Partially Deaf Girl		She is now leaving school. Her speech has been helped and she has gained much more confidence.
14 Dyslalics	10 boys	{ 8—Speech normal. 1—Left the district. 1—Unwilling for further treatment.
	4 girls	{ 1—Speech normal. 1—Improved as far as mentality seems likely to allow. 1—Referred by S.M.O. for Special Class. 1—Unwilling for further treatment.
4 Lispers	3 boys 1 girl	{ 2—Speech normal. 1—Improved as far as thought likely. Speech normal.

Remarks

The year has been a very varied one with encouraging results among a number of children and (as is now almost to be expected) a certain proportion of disappointments. The home back ground and influence continues to affect the “staying power” of children of limited intelligence and this factor has been very noticeable in nearly all the cases discharged under the “ Unwilling for treatment” sections. Where the home is a good one—not necessarily, or by any means always in the financial sense—the parents are mostly very co-operative and their support is of the greatest value.

Once again it will be noticed how greatly the proportion of boys needing treatment exceeds the girls. The number of Lispers—particularly the marked Lateral Lisp—among children admitted for treatment in this area has interested me over the years. It has been suggested that this may be a residual defect among children who have otherwise outgrown

dyslalic speech. I am, however, not convinced of this. I feel it may sometimes be much more in the nature of an early mannerism in certain cases of nervous temperament. I have come across several instances of such a lisp accompanying a stammer. Where the lisp is bound up with teeth or jaw formation I have the very ready co-operation of the Chief Dental Officer and his advice and help are much appreciated.

In the schools, in almost all cases, I continue to receive kindness and support from Head Teachers and their staffs. I feel the interest in Speech Therapy is growing throughout Gateshead and some teachers are becoming really “ Speech Therapy minded.”

MARGARET BARNES,
Speech Therapist.

13. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OF MEALS

The school meals service is able to supply all demands for mid-day meals, though the numbers availing themselves of meals during the school holidays is disappointing. 4,725 mid-day meals were provided daily and 14,218 children received the daily ration of milk.

14. NURSERY SCHOOLS

There are three nursery schools accommodating 80 children below the age of 5 years. 131 first and 3 subsequent examinations were made.

Dental caries and skin conditions were the commonest defects requiring treatment. A number of cases of strabismus were immediately sent for treatment.

Defects found during the examinations requiring treatment or observation were :—

	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Observation</i>
Eye defect (including squint)	2	3
Skin conditions	—	1
Orthopaedic defects	2	6
Dental caries	11	—
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids ..	1	9
Enlarged glands	—	8
Bronchitis and other chest conditions	2	3
Miscellaneous defects	2	8
Totals	20	38

As regards cleanliness, 1 child was flea-bitten.

On the whole, the health of the children attending the nursery schools is satisfactory.

**15. DUKESHOUSE WOOD CAMP SCHOOL,
HEXHAM**

During nine months of the year, approximately March to December, parties of Gateshead senior school children spend a period of two weeks at this school.

A resident nurse deals with minor ailments. She treated 734 children and reported that 2,037 treatments were given. In addition, 30 children were admitted to the sick bay. 13 cases of collapse and headache occurred during a social evening after overeating in Hexham. They all recovered quickly, 7 being admitted to sick bay for one day only.

4 children were admitted to Hexham General Hospital with query fractures. One child was found to be suffering from a fractured radius and nothing abnormal was detected in the other three children.

16. HIGHER EDUCATION

Those pupils born in 1944 attending the Grammar School were given routine examinations. The physical condition of these children remains consistently good.

Among the 262 pupils examined the following defects were noted:—

				<i>Requiring treatment</i>	<i>Requiring further observation</i>
Eye defects	..	..	..	70	20
Orthopaedic defects		..	..	11	11
Skin defects	..	..	..	4	2
Miscellaneous defects		..	..	15	20
Totals	..	..		100	53

Higher Education of Handicapped Pupils

One male received training at the Royal Victoria School for the Blind.

17. MISCELLANEOUS

There were 8 deaths in children of school age during the year. The causes of death were :—

Leukaemia	..	..	..	1
Congenital Heart Disease	..	..	..	1
Peritonitis	..	..	..	1
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	2
Other accidents	..	..	..	3

Additional examinations during the year by school medical officers were :—

Under Employment of Children Bye-laws	..	..	265
Of Boarded-out children (for Children's Officer)	..	..	29
From the Juvenile Courts	..	..	—
Candidates for the Teaching Profession	..	..	47

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION INSPECTION RETURNS

PART I

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including nursery and special schools)

Table A. Periodic Medical Inspections

<i>Age Groups inspected (by year of birth)</i> (1)	<i>No. of Pupils Inspected</i> (2)	<i>Physical condition of Pupils Inspected</i>			
		<i>No.</i> (3)	<i>% of Col. 2</i> (4)	<i>Unsatisfactory No.</i> (5)	<i>% of Col. 2</i> (6)
1955 and later	3	3	100	—	—
1954	1,137	1,129	99.3	8	0.7
1953	321	320	99.7	1	0.3
1952	37	36	97.3	1	2.7
1951	11	11	100.	—	—
1950	1	1	100.	—	—
1949	1,517	1,498	98.75	19	1.25
1948	59	58	98.3	1	1.7
1947	8	8	100.	—	—
1946	1	1	100.	—	—
1945	1,022	1,016	99.4	6	0.6
1944 and earlier	326	326	100.	—	—
Total	4,443	4,407	99.2	36	0.8

Table B. Pupils Found to require Treatment at Periodic Medical Inspections

<i>Age Groups inspected (by year of birth)</i> (1)	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i> (2)	<i>For any of the other conditions recorded in Part II</i> (3)	<i>Total individual pupils</i> (4)
1955 and later	—	1	1
1954	11	316	323
1953	5	91	94
1952	2	12	14
1951	—	3	3
1950	—	1	1
1949	308	470	691
1948	9	21	29
1947	—	2	2
1946	1	—	1
1945	239	228	409
1944 and earlier	83	41	112
Totals	658	1,186	1,680

Table C. Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	5,816
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	4,094
Total	..	..	..	9,910

Table D. Infestation with vermin

(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons ..	52,662
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ..	1,513
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944) ..	1,513
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944) ..	316

PART II

Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year

Table A. Periodic Inspections

Defect Code		Periodic Inspections							
No.	Defect or Disease	Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total	
(1)	(2)	(T) (3)	(O) (4)	(T) (5)	(O) (6)	(T) (7)	(O) (8)	(T) (9)	(O) (10)
4.	Skin	60	23	48	24	75	15	163	62
5.	Eyes	18	23	323	105	317	98	658	226
	a. Vision	83	5	16	4	45	—	144	9
	b. Squint	20	7	10	11	16	4	46	22
	c. Other	8	20	7	12	13	19	28	51
6.	Ears	8	17	6	7	12	22	26	46
	a. Hearing	6	15	4	15	19	14	29	44
	b. Otitis Media	42	187	14	97	24	189	80	473
	c. Other	29	32	4	6	11	15	44	53
7.	Nose and Throat	2	78	—	33	—	40	2	151
8.	Speech	7	62	3	42	10	21	20	125
9.	Lymphatic Glands	44	57	8	35	21	39	73	131
10.	Heart								
11.	Lungs								
12.	Developmental—								
	a. Hernia	8	14	5	1	4	4	17	19
	b. Other	49	52	29	58	54	69	132	179
13.	Orthopaedic—								
	a. Posture	12	13	14	12	43	16	69	41
	b. Feet	60	53	85	63	138	64	283	180
	c. Other	20	22	22	13	37	13	79	48
14.	Nervous System—								
	a. Epilepsy	1	2	2	2	6	1	9	5
	b. Other	1	2	—	1	2	5	3	8
15.	Psychological—								
	a. Development	4	7	12	2	23	3	39	12
	b. Stability	—	10	—	5	2	3	2	18
16.	Abdomen	1	4	1	2	3	—	5	6
17.	Other	39	8	17	15	33	11	89	34

Table B. Special Inspections

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Special Inspections	
		Pupils requiring Treatment (3)	Pupils requiring Observation (4)
(1)	(2)		
4.	Skin ..	15	3
5.	Eyes		
	a. Vision	88	16
	b. Squint	9	3
	c. Other	9	—
6.	Ears		
	a. Hearing	12	11
	b. Otitis Media	3	4
	c. Other	4	7
7.	Nose and Throat	10	24
8.	Speech	20	11
9.	Lymphatic Glands	—	11
10.	Heart	3	5
11.	Lungs	18	9
12.	Developmental—		
	a. Hernia	1	1
	b. Other	8	6
13.	Orthopaedic—		
	a. Posture	2	1
	b. Feet	19	9
	c. Other	3	6
14.	Nervous System—		
	a. Epilepsy	3	—
	b. Other	1	2
15.	Psychological—		
	a. Developmental	33	6
	b. Stability	1	1
16.	Abdomen	5	—
17.	Other	15	2

PART III

Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and
Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special
Schools)

Tabel A. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint

				<i>Number of cases known to have been dealt with</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint .. .. .	..	..	..	130
Errors of refraction (including squint) .. .. .	..	..	..	1,032
Total ..				1,162
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed				844

Table B. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat

							<i>Number of cases known to have been dealt with</i>
Received operative treatment—							
(a)	for diseases of the ear	..	..	..	..		15
(b)	for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	..	..	..	..		274
(c)	for other nose and throat conditions	..	..	..	..		53
Received other forms of treatment..							158
Total							500
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids—							
(a)	in 1959	..	..	..	..	..	—
(b)	in previous years	..	..	..	..	..	12

Table C. Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

		<i>Number of cases known to have been treated</i>
(a)	Pupils treated at clinics or out-patient department . .	968
(b)	Pupils treated at school for postural defects	—
		<hr/>
		968

Table D. Diseases of the Skin

							<i>Number of cases known to have been treated</i>
Ringworm	(a)	Scalp	..	..	..	..	2
	(b)	Body	..	..	..	..	3
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Other skin diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	350
Total							437

Table E. Child Guidance Treatment

							<i>Number of cases known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated at Child Guidance clinics							19

Table F. Speech Therapy

							<i>Number of cases known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated by speech therapist							56

Table G. Other Treatments Given

							<i>Number of cases known to have been treated</i>
(a)	Pupils with minor ailments						741
(b)	Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements						—
(c)	Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination						477
(d)	Other than (a), (b) and (c) above						
	Orthoptic	..	..	..	..	..	431
Total (a)—(d)							1,649

PART IV

Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority

1. Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—								
(a) At Periodic Inspections	11,529	}						
(b) As Specials	865	}	Total	(1)				12,394
2. Number found to require treatment ..								6,731
3. Number offered treatment								6,731
4. Number actually treated								4,680
5. Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, including those recorded at 11(h)								8,805
6. Half days devoted to :								
(a) Periodic (School) Inspection ..	75	}						
(b) Treatment	1,344	}	Total	(6)				1,419
7. Fillings :								
(a) Permanent Teeth	2,978	}						
(b) Temporary Teeth	516	}	Total	(7)				3,494
8. Number of Teeth filled :								
(a) Permanent Teeth	2,625	}						
(b) Temporary Teeth	470	}	Total	(8)				3,095
9. Extractions :								
(a) Permanent Teeth	1,202	}						
(b) Temporary Teeth	3,608	}	Total	(9)				4,810
10. Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction								1,926
11. Orthodontics :								
(a) Cases commenced during the year								65
(b) Cases brought forward from previous year								62
(c) Cases completed during the year								24
(d) Cases discontinued during the year								6
(e) Pupils treated with appliances								83
(f) Removable appliances fitted								177
(g) Fixed appliances fitted								—
(h) Total attendances								1,449
12. Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth								51
13. Other operations :								
(a) Permanent Teeth	2,956	}						
(b) Temporary Teeth	16	}	Total	(13)				2,972

